Outstanding loans against businessmen/industrialists

†*322. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons, institutions, businessmen, industrialists against whom the amounts of loan (short term and long term) of more than Rs. one crore of the nationalised banks is outstanding and since when;

(b) the amount of the interest and penalty that have become due on the outstanding loan so far and what steps Government are taking for its recovery;

(c) whether the action to recover the outstanding amount will be taken against these borrowers in the same manner as is taken against common man; and

(d) the details of the amount realised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the available information, as on 30th September, 2000, there were 6816 accounts in the public sector banks, with outstanding of Rs. 1 crore and above, which were classified as doubtful, loss and suit filed, and the total outstandings in these accounts was Rs. 41512.46 crores.

(b) to (d) While the data generating system of RBI does not separately generate information regarding interest and penalty levied, it is included in the figure of total outstandings given in para (a). Government of India and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised the banks and financial institutions to take several steps for recovery of bank dues such as evolving and implementation of recovery policy by banks, filing of suits with civil courts, filing cases with Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs), compromise settlement through Settlement Advisory Committees and monitoring and followup of Non- Performing Assets (NPAs) at various levels in the bank. RBI vide its circular dated 27th July, 2000 had framed non-discretionary and non-discriminatory guidelines for settlement of NPAs upto Rs. 5 crore and advised banks to evolve their own policy for loan outstandings of above Rs. 5 crore. In various meetings Government has directed the Chief Executives of the public sector banks to take strictest possible action against wilful defaulters. Effective action by banks for rehabilitation, one-time settlement for filing of suits in all necessry cases by 30.9.2001 has to be ensured by the chief

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

executives. Action has also been initiated to tighten legislative provisions for foreclosures and enforcement of securities in cases of default, in order to enable the banks and financial institutions to realize their dues. Credit Information Bureau has also been set up to disseminate information on borrowers to the banks. As per the information available from the Indian Banks' Association, the public sector banks have recovered an amount of Rs. 13,663 crore during the year 2000-2001 from their NPA accounts.

New Industrial Units in Bihar

†*323. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of granting special exemption in the Central Excise to Bihar on the lines of the North-Eastern States like Assam for setting up of new industrial units and to revive the old sick industrial units for the development of Bihar is pending; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) Sir, the Memorandum was examined and demand for special exemption under Central Excise was not favourably considered.

Levy of Excise on Independent Textile Process House

†*324. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Independent Textile Process House, the cost of whose plant and machinery is less than Rs. three crores, had been given the option of compound levy of excise;

(b) the number of applications received for granting recognition to the Process House possessing machinery worth Rs. three crores and the number of applications from Bhilwara out of them togetherwith the number of applications accepted and rejected; and

(c) the details of the legal ground for their rejection or approval?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.